

JAMES PRESSON

Theatre Director

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DIRECTING

Are You Ready to get Pampered?!*	Catherine Weingarten	59E59
Our Town	Thornton Wilder	Green-Wood Cemetery
Diva	Sean Patrick Monahan	Theatre Row/United Solo
Bard Rock	Adam Weppler/Jacob Green	Jimmy's No. 43/Peculiar Streams
Beckett in Benghazi	Ben Diserens	Under St. Marks
Little Town Blues	James Presson/Rachel B. Joyce	The Wild Project
Richard 3	Shakespeare/Original Adaptation	Annex @ La MaMa/Fringe NYC
The Crucible	Arthur Miller	Fordham University
Poodle with Guitar and Dark Glasses	Liz Duffy Adams	Fordham University
Go Down into Silence	Ariadne Blayde	Fordham University
The Big Country*	Chris Barlow	Fordham University
The Cherry Orchard*	Anton Chekhov	Fordham University
Genovese	<i>devised by the company</i>	Fordham University
Stripper in a Boxcar	Patrick Fleury	Fordham University
Sure Thing	David Ives	Wilton Playshop (CT)
Six Characters in Search of an Author	Luigi Pirandello/Original Adaptation	Brubeck Room (CT)
The Hot L Baltimore	Lanford Wilson	The Little Theatre (CT)

ASSISTANTSHIP

#UntitledPopMusical**	Kimmel & Gasparini	Le Poisson Rouge	<i>dir. Michael Kimmel</i>
Play It Again**	Zoe Sarnak	Joe's Pub	<i>dir. Michael Kimmel</i>
Turn of the Screw**	Kimmel & Gasparini	Lincoln Center	<i>dir. Michael Kimmel</i>
Voices in Conflict	Bonnie Dickinson	Vineyard Theatre	<i>dir. Bonnie Dickinson</i>
Elephant in the Room	Leah Hendrick	Cherry Lane/Fringe NYC	<i>dir. Morgan Gould</i>
The Good Person of Szechwan**	Bertolt Brecht	Fordham University	<i>dir. Elizabeth Margid</i>
Self Torture and Strenuous Exercise	Harry Kondoleon	Fordham University	<i>dir. Daniel H. Durkin</i>
Careless Love	Len Jenkin	Fordham University	<i>dir. Ian Quinlan</i>

AWARDS

- Indie Theater Now 'People of the Year' (w/ Less Than Rent), 2013
- Dramatists Guild Fellowship for Musical Theatre, 2013-2014
- FringeNYC Award for 'Outstanding Director' for *Richard 3*
- United Solo Awards for 'Best Musical' and 'Audience Favorite' for *Diva*
- Official Selection: ASCAP Musical Theatre Workshop, 2014
- *East Villager* 'Artist of the Month' (November 2012)
- Artist-in-residence: Horse Trade Theater Group 2012-2013, 2013-2014
- Fringe NYC Guide 'Best of the Fest' and 'Top 10 Musicals' for *Richard 3*
- Featured Artist: TDF Stages '*Meet the Theatre*', Nytheatre.com podcast, *TDF Stages Magazine*, WFUV 'Arts Conversation', Adam Szymkowitz blog '*Playwright #573*', Theatre in the Now '*Spotlight on...*', Zack Calhoun's '*People You Should Know*', as well as a recurring guest on the *Go See a Show* podcast
- *Frontier Psychiatrist* 'Best Off-Off-Broadway Play, Spring 2013' for *Words, Razors, and the Wounded Heart*
- FringeNYC Award for Outstanding Performance (Jake Ahlquist, *Richard 3*)

*denotes workshop

**denotes 'Associate' credit

- MTI Award for 'Courage in Theatre' for *Voices in Conflict*
- NCAC 'Freedom Award' for *Voices in Conflict*
- State of Connecticut Governor's Award 'Artistic Achievement' for *Voices in Conflict*

TRAINING & RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Fordham University, BA Theatre (Directing and Performance)

Directing: Elizabeth Margid, Eliza Baldi, Michael Sexton, Michael Kimmel, Corey Atkins

History/Text Analysis: Morgan Jenness, Framji Minwalla, Kai Brothers, Peter Gil-Sheridan

Acting: Phylicia Rashād, Alison Fraser, Matthew Maguire, Tina Benko, Rich Topol, Moritz Von Stuelpnagel, Dawn Saito, Judy Dennis, Andrea Haring, Elena McGhee, Michael Ryan

Design: Kris Stone, Jen Moeller, Chad McCarver, Becky Bodurtha, Tim Zay

Shakespeare: Steven Skybell

Clown: George Drance

Co-Artistic Director, Less Than Rent Theatre

- *Founded company in 2010.*
- *Shared Artistic Director position with Rachel B. Joyce and Charlie Polinger, April 2010-September 2013. Shared with Rachel B. Joyce, 2013-present*
- *Winner: 'People of the Year' from Indie Theater Now (2013)*
- *Overseen nine full productions and seven workshops.*
- *Certified 501(c)3*
- *Double Grantee from LMCC/NYSCA in 2013 for production of 'Beckett in Benghazi'*
- *Partner Company, Indie Theater Now*

Moscow Art Theatre (MXAT) Winter Session

Instructors: Anatoly Smeliansky, Galina Aksenova, Sergey Zemtsov, Michael Lobanov, Vladimir Sazhin

Sewanee Writers' Conference 2013

Workshop Leaders: Daisy Foote, Dan O'Brien

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